

Subpart A—General

§ 656.1 What is the National Resource Centers Program?

Under the National Resource Centers Program for Foreign Language and Areas Studies or Foreign Language and International Studies (National Resource Centers Program), the Secretary awards grants to institutions of higher education and consortia of institutions to establish, strengthen, and operate comprehensive and undergraduate Centers that will be national resources for—

- (a) Teaching of any modern foreign language;
- (b) Instruction in fields needed to provide full understanding of areas, regions, or countries in which the modern foreign language is commonly used;
- (c) Research and training in international studies and the international and foreign language aspects of professional and other fields of study; and
- (d) Instruction and research on issues in world affairs that concern one or more countries.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1122)

[61 FR 50193, Sept. 24, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 7739, Feb. 16, 1999; 74 FR 35072, July 17, 2009]

§ 656.2 Who is eligible to receive a grant?

An institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education is eligible to receive a grant under this part.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1122)

[61 FR 50193, Sept. 24, 1996, as amended at 74 FR 35072, July 17, 2009]

§ 656.3 What activities define a comprehensive or undergraduate National Resource Center?

A comprehensive or undergraduate National Resource Center—

- (a) Teaches at least one modern foreign language;
- (b) Provides—
 - (1) Instruction in fields necessary to provide a full understanding of the areas, regions, or countries in which the modern foreign language taught is commonly used;
 - (2) Resources for research and training in international studies, and the

international and foreign language aspects of professional and other fields of study; or

- (3) Instruction and research on issues in world affairs that concern one or more countries;
- (c) Provides outreach and consultative services on a national, regional, and local basis;
- (d) Maintains linkages with overseas institutions of higher education and other organizations that may contribute to the teaching and research of the Center;
- (e) Maintains important library collections;
- (f) Employs faculty engaged in training and research that relates to the subject area of the Center;
- (g) Conducts projects in cooperation with other centers addressing themes of world, regional, cross-regional, international, or global importance;
- (h) Conducts summer institutes in the United States or abroad designed to provide language and area training in the Center's field or topic;
- (i) Supports instructors of the less commonly taught languages; and
- (j) Encourages projects that support students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields to achieve foreign language proficiency.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1122)

[64 FR 7739, Feb. 16, 1999, as amended at 74 FR 35072, July 17, 2009]

§ 656.4 What types of Centers receive grants?

The Secretary awards grants to Centers that—

- (a) Focus on—
 - (1) A single country or on a world area (such as East Asia, Africa, or the Middle East) and offer instruction in the principal language or languages of that country or area and those disciplinary fields necessary to provide a full understanding of the country or area; or
 - (2) International studies or the international aspects of contemporary issues or topics (such as international business or energy) while providing instruction in modern foreign languages; and
- (b) Provide training at the—